

AGRICULTURAL

Horse Shoeing.

It has been said by some humane writer, that the history of every horse is a record of human endeavor to mar his utility.

While this assertion is sweeping there are respects in which a horse is very often the victim of his owner's ignorance, indifference, or mistaken kindness, and this treatment is strikingly conspicuous in regard to those organs so vitally essential to his usefulness, his feet.

The old aphorism, "no foot, no horse," no man questions. In no portion of the horse economy has he suffered so many wrongs, and as a natural result, endured so much uncalculated suffering, as in his feet, and to shoeing are all these evils directly or indirectly referable.

Without wishing to do injustice to our artisans of the anvil, it is a lamentable fact that these votaries of the buttress and drawing-knife are so wedded to traditional practices, so heinous, so irrational, so prejudicial, and so very foreign to the equal interests of the horse and his owner, that we might be excused for saying that their mission is to mar, instead of protect the delicate and perfect handiwork of the Great Architect.

Ignorant of anatomy, physiology and economic relations of the foot, they cut, they mutilate and they carve as withon, prejudice, or time honored custom dictates, disaster comes and the animal's suffering pays the bill.

Let us look at some of these cruelties. The insane custom of trimming the frog and cutting out the sole until it yields to pressure, is among them. The frog is nature's cushion and hoof expander, and placed in the foot for this specific purpose, its elasticity prevents concussion of the less elastic portions of the structure, therefore the knife is fatal to the foot.

Another tradition of the craft is paring the sole until nothing is left but a thin half formed horn to protect the living structures within. This dries and contracts by exposure to the air, and sets up another injury to the foot, contraction. He will next take up the self-imposed task of improving nature by cutting out the bars, the lateral bristles, laying off a plan of the heel of the foot to contract, narrow heel. Now the shoe must be nailed on, and it is of little moment to him whether the shoe fits the foot or not, but it is very necessary that the foot should fit the shoe.

The foot is shod, but at what a sacrifice! Its cushion cut out, its natural expander deformed, its lateral bristles removed, its sole mutilated, and its growth arrested; the delicate fibers which compose the horny wall are wounded and detached by large and too many nails, and deprived by the rasp of the varnish which retains the moisture; the foot becomes weakened. Shoeing, as it is done in this section, is a fruitful source of injury to our horses.

I am anxious to see the drawing knife discarded from the farrier's outfit. If our smiths would use their knives less and their brains more, the animals and owners would be better off; common sense should take the place of traditional customs. It is a strange but a certain truth, that the horse-shoer is the only one, among all our artisans, who will not allow directions given or even suggestions made by his employer.

Other mechanics permit their patrons to give size, weight, shape and general structure of their work and are glad to have a patron intelligent enough to give directions, but when the horse is taken to the shoeing forge, you are required to place him absolutely in the hands of the farrier, and thereby give your permission to cut and rasp at his will or take your horse elsewhere, only to find the same requirements. They are by accident a well organized body, especially in their traditional customs, "Grandfather done so and so, and so will I."

Many of these horse shoers do not know that there is a bone or joint within the hoof; in fact, I was once informed by one of smiths that the foot from the hair down was a solid mass with some few blood vessels running through it, and this is the idea of three-fourths of them. With our growing love for the raising and development of fine and valuable horses, we should begin to look out for artisans of intelligence and education.

It is time to formulate some legislation which would require an established standard of attainment in this class of mechanics to whose care property of such value is entrusted. At least some means of practical instruction, which would raise the science of horse-shoeing above the baneful influences of ignorance and traditional customs should be enacted.

I hope to see a day that no one will be allowed to shoe a horse, until he has mastered the science and has a certificate of his ability from some recognized authority.—McM., in Raleigh Observer.

Profit in Small Flocks of Sheep.

Where farmers have gone intelligently into the handling of small flocks of sheep they have usually procured such results that it has been an object lesson to their neighbors and induced them to do likewise. This is why so many more small flocks are to be seen now all over the country than was the case a few years ago.

To carry a small flock in connection with the diversified industries of the farm, and in order to still further diversify them, is a wise policy, and we hope to see it even more generally adopted. No branch of the live stock business can be made more profitable in a small way, nor will return more for the capital and labor invested. One reason for this is that there are so many channels through which the revenue comes. There is the rapid natural increase of the flock; the annual proceeds from the sale of wool; the food value; the enrichment of the land; and their services in cleaning land, which are always worth considering, because they are the best weed exterminators in the world. Another reason why sheep are more profitable than they were in the past is because the average weight of the fleeces produced in the United States now is double what it was thirty four years ago, and along with this gain in the fleeces has been almost a proportionate increase in the size of the carcass and the quality of the meat. It is these high class features that have made the business more profitable and more attractive than it was in the past, and development along the same lines will do as much for any branch of agriculture.—Southern Farm.

A gentleman who discovered that he was standing on a lady's train had the presence of mind to remark, "Though I may not have the power to draw an angel from the skies, I have pinned one to the earth." The lady excused him.

The Plough in the West.

The Peoria Transcript says: "It looks as though the plough would have to fall to the rear as a farm implement. From all parts of the West comes the advice, Don't plow your ground for oats. Ploughing is slow, hard on horses, and when done is not as good as surface cultivation with cultivator and disk barrow. More than half the oats sown in this part of Illinois are covered with a pulverizer or corn cultivator. This means of putting in oats is much more rapid, and the crops as a rule are better than those from the slower way of ploughing the land and then covering with a barrow."

"During the past four seasons our farmers have been experimenting with the pulverizer as a tool to prepare the seed bed for a corn crop. They first clear the land of stalks, then put four horses on the pulverizer, turn the disks to an angle where they will dig and throw, and dig up the surface of twelve or fourteen acres a day. By going over this twice or three times the surface is thoroughly pulverized to the depth of three or four inches, and in the best possible condition to put on the planter. Those who have tried this plan, and say they have no further use for the old plough outside of doing a little fall ploughing. One of the great advantages of pulverizing instead of ploughing is found in not having to harrow, plow or roll in order to reduce the clods that so often turn up in spring ploughing."

Cure for Corn Weevil.

For many years in succession I have had my corn in the bin more or less ruined by the weevils. From my own experience in this line I should judge that there is an annual loss of over a million of dollars from weevils in Texas alone. Could the weevil be readily destroyed and exterminated, we could export a large surplus of corn; as it is now, there is a great deal of truth in the saying that Kansas feeds Texas, both man and beast.

I have experimented with different insecticide to prevent the ravages of this insect, but as it is hard to kill, my experiments failed until last year.

Last fall in putting up my corn I placed two open bottles of bisulphur carbon four feet apart, on the floor of the bin. The months of these bottles were covered with a layer of cheese cloth, and each bottle covered with an old broken box. The corn was thrown on these boxes, and the bin filled to its utmost capacity.

The result of this experiment was highly successful; what weevils were admitted from the field were destroyed and none further appeared. Thus at a cost of 50 cents, with very little trouble, I have effectually protected about 500 bushels of corn against weevils. Another feature about this experiment is, I have noticed neither mouse nor rat in the bin, nor any traces of them, which was not the case before, for in previous years they, too, had done great damage to the corn.

Let me recommend to farmers the trial of my remedy, for I feel assured it will be with gratifying results.—Austin Statesman.

Don't Work Colts too Young.

It is a mistake to work colts when they are too young. It is well enough to put the harness on a two year old, but then if he is willing and quiet there is sometimes a temptation to put him at hard work. But each genuinely hard day's work that such a colt does, will decrease his value much more than he earns by his labor.—New York Observer.

WHOLESALE ONLY.

Charlotte, N. C., August 1, 1891.

OPENING OF

FALL SEASON, 1891

By the Talismanic

THREE

P. P. P.

PUSH! PLUCK! PATIENCE!

I am enabled to lay before a kind public, which is ever ready to applaud "success," a comparative statement of cases and sales of goods sold and shipped by me during the month of June and July, for the three years respectively of 1889, 1890 and 1891.

1889, June, 318 Cases and Bales—July 680
1890, " 461 " " " " 1017
1891, " 519 " " " " 1459

An increase in THREE years of over 100 percent, and as these figures speak more eloquently than anything I could say, I simply point to them and say, "These are my jewels." And now a word to those merchants who have not yet bought:

Do not go North to buy—the times will not warrant it—but buy nearer home and often. I offer you a good selection of goods as, and warrant prices with, any market. My lines are all ready for inspection. Send for quotations, or come in person, or let me send one of my salesmen to you.

Respectfully,

S. WITKOWSKY.

Aug. 21, 1891.

As a specimen of what selection will do, it may be observed that roosters and hens among the Rucienne tribe of Indians in the western part of French Guinea are perfectly white. Not a colored feather can be found among them. The natives have no tradition of a time when their ancestors had fowls of other colors, but the white chickens are probably explained by the fact that white feathers are the choicest ornaments among this people, and they will not wear feathers of any other color. In fact, their fowls are raised more for their feathers than for the cooking pot. It is supposed that a long time ago, when their ancestors chose white as their favorite color they gave the preference to those fowls which were nearest white, reserving the others for the cooking pot, and by constantly breeding from fowls that were white or nearly so the present breed of chickens was evolved.

OFFICE OF
E. B. SPRINGS & CO.

FERTILIZER DEALERS.

TO
FARMERS AND ALLIANCEMEN,

we desire to say that we are prepared for the

SPRING TRADE

in FERTILIZERS, and solicit the patronage of all our old customers and as many new ones as possible.

We are still Agents for the

CHARLOTTE OIL AND FERTILIZER CO.,

and can sell you their

ACID PHOSPHATE

AND

AMMONIATED FERTILIZERS.

They are the BEST of all FERTILIZERS sold in this section. To prove this we refer you to the Reports for last year of the North Carolina Experiment Station, and of the

SOUTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

In this State, our Analysis as made by the STATE CHEMIST shows the Charlotte Ammoniated Fertilizer to be HIGHEST IN GRADE for cotton, corn and wheat, and, in South Carolina our Charlotte Acid Phosphate was given the HIGHEST GRADE of any sold in that State.

Remember these things and when you wish to buy your corn and wheat and get the best, as you know the best is always the cheapest in the long run. Remember that the CHARLOTTE FERTILIZERS are made by a company composed of home people who you know all about and whose reputations are to be considered.

Yours Truly,

E. B. SPRINGS & CO.

Jan. 29, 1892.

J. W. Wadsworth & Son,

SUCCESSORS TO

A. C. HUTCHISON & CO.

We have just received our New Styles for 1892.

BUGGIES,

WAGONS,

SURRYS,

PHAETONS,

CARTS, and

All kinds of Vehicles for sale cheap.

Call and see us and buy a Studebaker Wagon.

Jan. 15.

SPARKLING

CATAWBA SPRINGS.

These just celebrated Springs of Western North Carolina are Beautifully Located.

The Climate is Delightful.

The Waters

are eminently curative for

Dyspepsia,

Liver Disease,

Vertigo,

Spinal Affections,

Neuralgia,

Rheumatism,

Scrofula, Gravel, Diabetes, Kidney Affections, Chronic Cough, Asthma, Insomnia, Debility and all Skin Diseases.

Hotel refitted and put in first class order.

Room for 400 Guests

IS NOW OPEN.

Write for terms.

DR. E. O. ELLIOTT & SON, Prop'rs.,

Sparkling Catawba Springs, N. C.

May 29, 1891.

IF YOU WEAR
BOOTS

You can buy a pair at out place for the same price you can a pair of Shoes.

SEE THOSE
BOOTS FOR \$1.50 AND \$2.00.

The first of the season we got 50 and 75 cents a pair more for them.

We have
DETERMINED TO CLOSE OUT

every pair this Spring if LOW PRICES are any object.

BOYS' BOOTS,

all go the same way. We would rather sell them AT COST than carry them over, so it is money in your pocket to come and see us.

Don't forget we are still selling Shoes also.

Another lot of these

OIL GRAIN BROGANS

just received.

GRAY & BARNHARDT.

Jan. 15, 1892.

WE WANT YOU

To act as our agent. We will treat you well and pay liberally for your services. The business is light, genteel and easy to handle. No special ability required. Either sex, young or old, with or without experience can make money easily, rapidly and honorably working for us. You may begin at home and if you wish, work only during your spare moments and evenings.

Our Workers are Better Paid

THAN ALL OTHERS;

earn their money with greater ease, and we supply them with articles that people want and WILL HAVE. Full particulars sent free. Write to-day and address

GEORGE STINSON & CO.,

Box 488, Portland, Maine.

Dec. 18, 1891.

BOOTS.

See our special Boot—fine, light Kip, Extension Edge, double stitch, price \$5.00.

Heavy Kip and grain water proof Boots, long or short legs.

Large stock Rubber Boots, for Men, Boys, Ladies and Misses.

Fine Calf Boots, heavy and light. We sell the only "Best \$2.00 Boot;" don't take our word, but examine them.

Large sock of Boys, and Youths, Boots. Lowest prices always.

GILREATH & CO.

Oct. 23, 1891.

A GREAT BARGAIN.

We offer at private sale, on easy terms, a splendid Milling plant, consisting of a Grist Mill with two runs of stone, and all improvements for making good flour and meal. A Gin (Pratt's) Cotton Press, Scales and Cotton Elevator. Saw Mill with Saw and belt—all in good buildings and run by a 25 H. P. Engine and Boiler. The wheat and corn mill has had a good patronage and has made money, so has the Cotton Gin—which has gained from 350 to 416 bales of Cotton per year; 416 bales last year.

This plant has earned net \$1,500 is one year. There are two good dwellings on the property. We will sell this property one-fourth cash and balance in three equal payments, one each year near the city. Or we will exchange for farm land near the city.

BREM & CO.,

18 East Trade St., Charlotte, N. C.

Dec. 4, 1891.

WILCOX, GIBBS & CO'S

MANUFACTURED BY

GUANO

MANUFACTURED BY

The Wilcox & Gibbs Guano Co.

CHARLESTON, S. C.

Has been used for more than a quarter of a Century and has proved the Best Cotton Fertilizer in the World

Nov. 20, 1891.

4m

BUSINESS.

Wanted to open a correspondence with a party with some means, with a view of engaging in the growth and manufacture of Florida Tobacco. Plenty of Land and Buildings suitable both for growing and curing a crop, and manufacturing the products, if desired.

GEO. C. RIXFORD,

Riford, Fla.

For further particulars enquire at the DEMOCRAT office.

Nov. 20, 1891.

CAUTION.

The utmost care should be taken in the filling of

PRESCRIPTIONS.

Our Prescription Department is in the hands of thoroughly competent and reliable men. You are in no danger when your prescriptions are filled here.

JORDAN & CO.,

Druggists.

Dec. 4, 1891.

ROYAL GERMA TUEUR \$100 PER BOTTLE

—three for \$2.50, at

R. H. JORDAN & CO.

Sept. 25, 1891.

EDDINS BOOK STORE

Headquarters for School Books of All Kinds.

Especially the books recommended by the State Board of Education. The finest Stationery at either wholesale or retail.

We buy and sell Second Hand School Books, and will take them in exchange for new ones when in good condition.

EDDINS BOOK STORE.

Sept. 18, 1891.

FIRE AND LIFE

INSURANCE AGENCY.

Established in 1854.

NOW REPRESENTING

ROYAL WESTERN ASSURANCE, English Companies

"Georgia Home,"

Virginia Fire and M.,

"Niagara," Rochester German.

"Insurance Company of North America."

E. NYE HUTCHISON,

AGENT,

Office Springs corner, Trade and Tryon streets

Nov. 29, 1891.

A FINE LOT OF FURNITURE.

ORDERED ESPECIALLY FOR

THIS SEASON'S TRADE.

Beautiful 16th Century Plush Rockers.

16th Century Rattan Rockers.

16th Century Tables.

All are of exceedingly handsome patterns.

The very latest things out, and there are no more tasty presents to be found anywhere. Call and see.

BURGESS NICHOLS,

Furniture Dealer.

Dec. 25, 1891.

GENERAL NOTICE

TO DEBTORS.

We have given every one who owes us as long time as we can, and we now say to all, that we must put out their papers for collection. We would not do this but we cannot avoid it as the Fertilizer Company must be paid.

So, don't be out of humor at us, if you find your note or account in the hands of an attorney for collection.

If you should want to hold your cotton, we will arrange to get money on it for you, if you put in our warehouse enough to cover our debt.

E. B. SPRINGS & CO.

Nov. 20, 1891.

SOLID PIECES

OF

Sterling ** Silver

Inlaid in the backs

OF

SPOONS *

* AND FORKS

All Points West Shipped to Wear

AND THEN

PATENTED FOR THE

AS HEAVY AS

Standard Plate.

WARRANTED

To Wear 25 Years.

WILL LAST

MORE DURABLE

THAN LIGHT

Sterling Silver